

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Blessed God, giver of harvest and holidays, of fruitful labour and time to rest, bless the harvest of all that you have sown and refresh all that you have made. Walk beside those who have sown in tears and whose spirits are dry and fruitless; come to those unable to relax or let go. May we give you thanks in our work and in our recreation, in our homes and in our travels, Blessed God.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

ASHBOCKING

Ashbocking has quite a lot to say this month - please bear with us!

The Baptism and Confirmation service was held on June 21st, it was a lovely day and the church looked beautiful. The service was very special and made so by all the people who came to support the candidates. It was wonderful to see the church so full and their love and encouragement made it a truly memorable occasion.

We do have several thanks to give out as so many people had worked so hard to perfect the occasion. First, thank you to the 'Ashbocking Gang' for their time and hard work tidying and mowing the graveyard and thoroughly cleaning the church. Linda Ellis and Brenda Mitchell then moved in and made a superb job of the flowers. A huge thank you goes to them for making the church look so beautiful. I know it took them several hours and it was very much appreciated.

Next we must thank Catherine Beaumont; it was quite an undertaking to prepare us all for the various vows we were making. She did this as usual with her love and total commitment to support us through the whole process, starting with the preparation classes through to the day itself. She has been our inspiration and our rock,

and is now offering a Christian discussion group starting in September.

We also thank her and Ian, her husband, for inviting us to Otley Hall for the post-confirmation picnic. It was a lovely evening and enjoyed by us all. Ian, the family, including his mum Jo, waited on us all with wine, teas and coffee, so thanks to them too. We must also thank Bishop Graeme, who led the service, for his kind words and approachability, as well as the rest of the ministry team, Catherine, Clare Sanders, and Jane Hall.

We were fortunate to have the bell-ringers to ring Ashbocking's wonderful bells, and we thank them and the Grundisburgh choir who inspired our singing, together with John Cooper, who managed our organ superbly, and coaxed it to its full potential. As John Pollard was reaffirming his Baptism vows, and Duncan Bray was away, we were very grateful to Richard Treloar from Otley for stepping in as churchwarden for the occasion, supported by Jane Hall.

Our final thanks go to Chris Garnham who has been so dedicated in making our new altar frontal and having it ready in time. It meant a great deal to those participating in the service and it did look truly magnificent in its cream and gold, which were also reflected in the flowers.

Well done and thank you everyone. Now to other matters. The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride is on 12th September and sponsorship forms are available from John Pollard at Hawthorns, Ashbocking, or by phoning 890836. Please support the Trust and join the cyclists in 'Team Ashbocking'. You are invited to visit as many churches as possible between 9am and 5pm either alone or in a team. I will be in the church all day with refreshments so if you wish to join me for a stint welcoming, I shall be pleased to see you.

Arrangements for the **Harvest Barn Dance** at Henley community Centre on 26th Sept are continuing and there will be flyers out

shortly and tickets will soon be on sale. Dancing is to Inertia Reel, there will be a two course meal and a bar is available. Tickets available from Ann Kent in Swilland 785262 or from Linda Pollard in Ashbocking 890836. £8 adult, £4 child or £22 for family of 2 adults and 2 children under 16yrs.

As most of you know, we collect packeted and tinned food in the church for FIND to distribute in food parcels to those in need. They are based in Ipswich and are desperate for volunteers to help with deliveries. If you have a few hours to spare during the week and feel this is something you could help with please contact Maureen Reynall on 07747 787480 for details.

See below for more about “Going Deeper”, the group that Jan and Jon Bates will be leading in the autumn. The discussion group to follow on from the confirmation will be led by Catherine at Steve and Sarah Wilson’s, Eastbrook House, The Green, Ashbocking, starting on Monday September 7th and 21st, at 7:30pm. All welcome and please ask Catherine for more details.

Finally, if you know of anyone who is unwell, or on their own, or you would like a visit yourself, please do let Catherine or Linda Pollard know as we do have a pastoral team in the village who are happy to visit for a chat and maybe a cup of tea. Catherine Beaumont 890264 or Linda Pollard 01473 890836.

Linda Pollard

NEW ASHBOCKING HOMEGROUP

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10.00am till 12.00

We meet to study scripture, to pray & to discover together
“that for which Christ Jesus has taken hold of us”. (Philippians 3:12)

Sept. Wednesday 2nd and 16th

Oct. Wednesday 7th and 21st

Nov. Wednesday 4th and 18th

Dec. Wednesday 2nd

At 4 The Cottages, Ashley Grange, Ashbocking IP6 9JH

Call Jan or Jon Bates for more information: 01473 892605

CLOPTON

The second Clopton Midsummer fete was a great success. It was opened by local celebrity Neville the postman! He was resplendent in a multi-coloured suit which, for those old enough to remember, depicted the old TV test card for the BBC. The fete committee had worked hard during the year to improve on last year's event. There was Swing, Irish and Line dancing and lots of interesting stalls. Charlie Laws provided the music and entertained people with his auctioneering skills. The refreshments stall, which had a wonderful array of cakes, was busy all afternoon. June Hughes did a sterling job washing up nonstop the whole time! It was a good old-fashioned village fete and the money raised, around £1,500, will be shared between St Elizabeth Hospice, East Anglian Children's Hospice and the village hall. Well done and thank you to all who donated prizes, cakes etc and helped to make it such a successful event.

The Strawberry Tea on the 27th June was very well-attended— over sixty people came and we ran out of chairs! There were lots of delicious cakes and of course strawberries (donated by Arthur and John Barham) and cream. Thank you to everyone who helped by making cakes, donating raffle prizes and coming to support us. We raised £330 for church funds.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk is on Saturday 12th September. It would be good to get some riders for Clopton and also to have volunteers to sit in the church to record visiting cyclists. If you would like to help phone 737602. Sponsor forms are available from me or the church.

The craft and hobbies-morning will be from 10am until noon in the village hall on Wednesday 5th August, everyone is very welcome. The August coffee-morning is on Wednesday 19th from 10am until noon and will be hosted by Pete Raffell. Come and join us!

Doris Main

Church cleaning
Church flowers

Audrey and Chris Barker
Doris Main

OTLEY

The fete was held on a very hot and humid day and was well-supported, with village organisations running different stalls and a treasure-hunt to encourage the children to visit them all. The dog show, organised by Ian and Jodie Liddell and judged by Amy and Ella, was very entertaining with a variety of different races and classes for many dogs competing. The tug of war and egg-throwing competition were also good fun. Sideshows included face-painting and the Scouts' water-bomb catapult (very popular on such a warm day). The tombola and raffle had an impressive number of prizes, so thank you to all who gave them. The church provided delicious teas, The White Hart pork rolls, and The Otley Players ice creams.

The fete was followed by a barbecue as OtleyFest got underway. Music was provided by four groups of local musicians and thank you to everyone who performed or helped stage the event. It was a very successful day for the Community Council - and for the community.

John and Helen Jay have moved to Woodbridge after 37 years in Otley and we held a farewell party for them at Otley Hall, attended by seventy people. They have both been involved in so many aspects of village life, and given so much of their time, that they will be sorely missed. Over the years John has been churchwarden, parish council chairman, great supporter of the Scouts, and chairman of the Friendship Club, to say nothing of umpiring the Halls' Boxing Day hockey match! Helen has been our ever-dependable church organist (and will still be playing once a month), has led the St Mary's Handbell Ringers (which she will continue to do), been the village recorder, and has used her expertise to help The Otley Players and Junior TOPS with their musical productions. Together they produced, printed and distributed The Otley News. A great legacy. At the party James

paid a warm tribute to them, to which they both responded, and presented them with a bouquet of flowers. We wish them well in their new home.

The next coffee-morning will be held on Thursday 27th August at The Gables, Helmingham Road, the home of Richard and Angela Treloar.

Looking ahead to September, the Village Show and the Sponsored Bike Ride for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust both take place on 12th September. Schedules for the show are available in the Post Office so start planning your entries now, and sponsorship forms for the Bike Ride are available in the church. On 25th September we shall again be holding a coffee-morning at Church House for Macmillan Cancer Support, this time for the new Woolverstone Macmillan Centre at Ipswich Hospital. Please make a note of these dates.

Finally, there has been an abundance of new babies in the past month. Congratulations to all the families on the births of Inika May to Sarah (nee Crowley) and her husband Srinath (a sister for Jai), Isabella Grace to Rebecca (nee Upson) and Wolfgang Schuster, Alexander Edwin to Katy (nee Kemp) and Chris Higginbottom, and Annabel to Amy and Ben Cranfield (a sister for Eva and Alice). It is wonderful news.

Rose Rogerson

Village diary:

6th August Friendship Club – Visit to Ipswich Records Office
27th August Friendship Club – Visit to Clacton Air Show
Church Flowers Ruth Farnhill/Wedding

Sidepersons' Rota:

16 th August	9.30am	Holy Communion	Penny Clark
30 th August	11.00am	Benefice Service	Karin Upson

Next Otley Youth Club Car Boot.

20th September 2015 - 9am - 12 (sellers from 8am)

£5 per pitch no need to book. Otley Village Hall. Ring 890269.

"Thank you"

Thank you to everyone involved in our "Leaving Do" at Otley Hall. It was a very happy occasion and wonderful to see and chat with so many friends, neighbours and associates from the various organisations that we have been involved with in the village over the thirty seven years that we have lived in Spring Park. Special thanks to Jane for masterminding it, to Catherine and Ian for hosting it, to James for his very kind words and to everyone who brought along such delicious food and helped in any way. Thank you too for the card with all the kind messages and for the beautiful flowers. We really did appreciate it. Otley is a great village, very active and supportive and we will certainly keep in touch. Thank you all.

Helen and John Jay

Parish Council Report

The council met in May for the annual parish meeting to review the activities of the past year. Speeding in the village has been a constant topic and we have had a noticeable increase in Police presence over the year as well as the community speedwatch camera. We would like to thank the Police and Tony Barrett and his team for all their efforts which we believe has made a real difference. We are also in the process of ordering a mobile VAS sign and the four posts for these should be in place within the next 14 weeks. We would like to thank Cllr Peter Bellfield for a sizeable contribution towards this project out of his locality fund.

The bus shelter at Newlands is due to be erected shortly and the shelter outside the Post Office has now been rebuilt after being knocked down by a bus and we would like to thank the Soames family for attending to this matter promptly. You may also have noticed some planting of shrubs and flowers around the war memorial and this was completed as part of the centenary of WW1. Over the coming months we hope to see a fine display and we

would like to thank Isobel Lincoln and Jayne Vaughan for doing the research and planting.

Although we worked very hard as a community, we were unsuccessful this year in our application for Village of the Year 2015. We would like to thank everyone who was involved, particularly Penny Sunaway who organised litter-picking, grass-cutting, and general tidying, and Tony Catesby for painting the phone box outside the shop. A lot of the information collected is now on the noticeboard outside the doctors' surgery, where you will find a list of up-coming events and contacts for the numerous clubs and groups we are very lucky to have within the village. We congratulate Grundisburgh for winning the Suffolk Coastal award, followed by Wickham Market and Kelsale.

Sadly, we say goodbye to a few people this year. Cllr Peter Bellfield has retired as district councillor but remains as a county councillor and we would like to thank him for all his help and guidance over these past years and wish him well for the future. Cllr Tony Fryatt is now our new district councillor. He is an active member of the planning committee at Suffolk Coastal, is also chair of SAVID (safer village driving) which has been formed by villages Boulge, Burgh, Charsfield, Clopton, Debach, Great Bealings and Otley to take action to reduce speeding, and a senior member of SALC (Suffolk Association of Local Councils).

We also see Cllr Brian Childs retire after 15 years of active service on the parish council, having been vice-chair for the past 2 years. We thank him for all his work and support and wish him well in the future. Lastly, I have also decided to step down as parish clerk to concentrate on returning to work as a reflexologist. I have now handed the reigns over to Rachel Green, who lives on Church Road. We wish her well. Please contact her by email on rag.designs@hotmail.co.uk, or via the parish council's website www.otley.onesuffolk.net.

Vanessa Osborne

News from Otley Primary School

It is pleasing to report that Otley & Winesham Schools won the Excellence in Collaboration Award at Suffolk County Council's 2015 Raising the Bar Awards held in Bury St Edmunds on 25 June. The judging panel "felt that this forward-thinking partnership showed a good example of a successful federation of schools. It has enabled these two small schools to thrive, maintain Good Ofsted judgements and, most importantly, enhance the provision for their pupils. They successfully share best practice and hold partnership events between the schools."

The criteria for the award was "to recognise governors, trustees, non-executives and committee members (as individuals or boards) who have contributed significantly to the vision, ambition, and success of early years settings, schools and colleges." I would like to thank everybody in both school communities; staff, parents, pupils and governors whose hard work achieved this success.

Ian Liddell-chair of governors

Singing for health and happiness in Otley

Picture the scene - a tranquil spot in the countryside near Otley; birds singing, the gentle rustling of trees and the sound of raised voices...

...raised in joyous song that is! The strains of 'River deep, mountain high', 'Que Sera' and 'Penny Lane' emanate from a beautiful barn every Monday, as one of the area's newest singing groups gets into full swing. Singing for Health and Happiness is a friendly, relaxed session run by singer Yula Andrews and welcomes anyone who would like to come and sing popular songs (from Doris Day to Take That), drink tea, eat biscuits, socialise and leave smiling and energised. The songs are all sung in unison, there's no audition or music-reading involved and you don't have to have any experience at all – even if you don't think you can sing, you're very welcome to come and join in anyway! Singing is proven to produce 'happy' hormones and can relieve anxiety and depression, help respiratory function and lower blood pressure – and singing as part of a group gives you a warm fuzzy feeling too!

The group is part of the Pop Chorus family of choirs, with around 150 singers across 4 choirs, and there are also opportunities to watch and join in with the other singers at informal gatherings. The Health and Happiness group meets every Monday from 2-4pm at Moat Farm, Otley, IP6 9PE (on the road between Clopton and Monewden). There's no charge for the sessions, but small donations are welcomed. Visit www.popchorus.org or call Yula on 07788 585441 to find out more or get directions. Or just turn up one Monday and give it a try!

SWILLAND

The Illuminati Concert held in the church on 12th July was a great success. Some 46 people enjoyed a varied programme of unaccompanied singing made all the more enjoyable by the introductions to each song. An excellent tea was served in the interval. The rain held off until part way through the second half. Many thanks to Anthony Reidy and the Illuminati choir and to those who provided the tea and arranged beautiful flowers in the church. The £460 raised will go towards repairing the floor under the organ when it goes away for repair and restoration.

Our Harvest Festival Service will be on Sunday 20th September at 11 a.m. and don't forget the Swilland and Ashbocking Harvest **Barn Dance** on Saturday 26th September at Henley Village Hall. See the Ashbocking notes for further details.

Ann Kent

Flower Rota:

29th July – 2nd August	Ann Kent
9th – 16th August	Gill Reidy
23rd – 30th August	Jackie Williams

RAINFALL – June

In years gone by it was known as a flaming June when the temperature really began to rise; this year one can only describe June as flaming cold. It wasn't until the longest day arrived that

there was any noticeable improvement and then we had a heatwave and on the 1st of July it reached 34c or 94f. As is so often the case, it's the jet stream that was responsible. It has been very unsettled, jumping from south to north without any sort of pattern. Apart from an inch of rain at the beginning of the month, there were only light showers, making a monthly total of 1.30 inches (9.26 inches for the year). The indications are for 2015 to be a dry year.

Russell Ling

FIND

As you are aware, our benefice supports Families in Need (FIND) foodbank in Ipswich and your support has been very generous. Many volunteers work for the charity at their Ipswich depot - sorting the donations, preparing and delivering food parcels. They now need more volunteers to deliver food/toiletries in the Ipswich area, starting at the depot in Felixstowe Road for about 2 hours in the afternoons, particularly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. If you would like to offer your services, or find out more, please contact me [\(890546\)](tel:890546), or the director of FIND, Maureen Reynel [\(07747 787480\)](tel:07747787480). Thank you again for your tremendous support of this very worthwhile local charity.

Nigel Crowley

DEBENHAM GROUP PRACTICE

Staff News - We are pleased to advise that Dr Inara Thassim will be joining the practice on Wednesday 5 August 2015 as our new Registrar and she will be with us for 12 months.

Diabetic Eye Screening Service - The Retinal Screening team will be at Debenham for 2 weeks from the 17th August through to 28th August.

Steve Bloomfield - business manager



UNLUCKY NUMBERS

Some people think that the number 13 is unlucky but did you know that other countries and traditions have different 'unlucky' numbers?

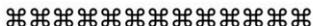
The numbers 4 and 9 are considered unlucky for the Japanese. Why? Because the Japanese word for '4' sounds exactly like the word for 'death' and the word for '9' sounds like the word for 'suffering'. There are no rooms numbered 4 or 9 in many hospitals or hotels in Japan.



JOE: I'm so unlucky; my plastic fruit went mouldy.

JIM: I'm more unlucky than that – my stuffed bird flew away.

JACK: That's nothing. When I went ice-skating the rink caught fire!



Answers: 1.150 2.40 3.3 4.2 5.969
6.7 7.127 8.5 9.14 10.276

BIBLE NUMBERS?

The answer to each of these questions about the Bible, is a number.



1. How many psalms are there in the Book of Psalms?
2. How many days did Jesus spend in the wilderness (Matthew, chapter 4)?
3. How many times did Peter deny Jesus (Luke, chapter 22)?
4. How many daughters-in-law did Naomi have (Ruth, chapter 1)?
5. How long did Methuselah live (Genesis, chapter 5)?
6. How many days did Joshua march around the walls of Jericho (Joshua, chapter 6)?
7. How many provinces did Ahasuerus rule over (Esther, chapter 1)?
8. How many sparrows were sold for 2 pennies (Luke, chapter 12)?
9. After how many years did Paul go again to Jerusalem with Barnabas and Titus (Galatians, chapter 2)?
10. How many people were saved from the ship that Paul travelled on when it was shipwrecked on the island of Malta (Acts 27)?



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